Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Margret Ellen Gibson was born on April 29, 1908, to Mathew and Caroline Gibson at Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, and moved with her parents to Colome, South Dakota, at the age of 2; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Margret married James Edward Merchen on April 25, 1934, at Martin, South Dakota, and to that union 10 children were born: Frank, Margret, Eldon, James, Lynn, Clayton, Ralph, Lawrence, Florence, and Kathryn, who additionally blessed their lives with 22 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Margret enjoys reading, gardening, and sewing but her passion in life is her family; and,

Whereas, Margret will observe her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on May 3, 2008, to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2008, as

MARGRET MERCHEN DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State